

WHY SHOULD THE STATE BUILD THE MAJOR DENTAL AND MEDICAL COLLEGE HUB
IN NEWARK WITH ADEQUATE FUNDING?

- Office
of
Medicine
&
Dentistry*
1. The state of New Jersey has a moral and legal obligation to the community that has been re-enforced by the Departments of HEW and HUD and written agreements between the state, city and federal officials. Involving tremendous human sacrifice, the homes of 3,000 people were demolished to build the medical school.

The Federal Government has already committed \$35 million to the construction of NJCMD in Newark. In addition, \$2 million in federal money is contemplated for construction of a community mental health center and \$15.6 million in additional grant requests for research and library facilities are to be voted upon in June. These funds are directly related to the establishment of a biomedical educational complex in Newark. Any relocation of these proposed facilities would imperil the receipt of these vitally needed funds.

3. The approved master plan for the development of the Model Cities area directly hinges on the College. Any changes also endanger further federal support for the Newark Model Cities Program. The first year grant was \$5,600,000.
4. In light of the critical health needs existing in Newark and the state, the federal government allocated the largest construction grant in history to the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry. Applied for under a Democratic administration, these funds were approved by a Republican administration. The bi-partisan support was based on the Newark location.
5. The location of the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark is a pivotal one to the economic rebirth of New Jersey's largest city. The planned medical school complex in Newark is key to the total human development of the city. It is essential in solving Newark's health care needs and bolstering the city's ability to attract new jobs for area residents.
6. The state has already made major financial commitments in terms of land acquisition, architectural plans, etc. Delay or restructuring of this program would add to the cost of total construction. Costs are estimated to be rising at a rate of 1-1/2% per month.
7. The economic redevelopment of Newark is essential to the financial viability of the State of New Jersey. Low attainment in school and high unemployment rates can be shown to be directly related to poor health. A primary function of the College is to help break the cycle of poverty and disease and allow the city to assume its full responsibility towards the financing of state government programs.
8. The public reaction over the last two weeks indicates unified support for a Newark location. Press, professional and civic leaders have fully endorsed the implementation of the construction plan as it now exists.

9. New Jersey's need for physicians and dentists is critical. Shortage acutely felt in Newark.

- a) NJCMD/Martland serves not only the function of a community hospital but also as general practitioner to over 200,000 inner-city residents. Newark is also the heart of the area which has 2/3 of the state's population.
- b) The Newark area leads the nation in a number of health indices -- new TB cases, VD, drug addiction, infant and maternal mortality.
- c) New Jersey needs a center for medical and dental education programs and Newark is the logical hub.

NJCMD in Newark is graduating physicians and dentists. This June 72 physicians and 42 dentists will receive their diplomas.

NJCMD is the state's only operating 4-year College of medicine and dentistry with over 1,000 graduates and last year the College trained 1,000 people in the health fields, i.e., doctors, dentists, nurses, medical scientists, technicians and aides.

- 10. There are over 6,000 potential clinical teaching beds in hospitals located in the Greater Newark Area. This would provide an economic approach to the establishment of satellite clinical teaching programs.
- 11. Over the past two years the College has attracted over a score of nationally and internationally known health educators. They have left positions in other prominent schools because of a promise of a full teaching facility in Newark.
- 12. The decision to locate the College in Newark would draw interns and residents into the state's hospital care program. The majority of young doctors now leaving the state will not return to practice in New Jersey.
- 13. The students, faculty and staff of NJCMD made a personal commitment based upon the announced plans to build the campus in Newark.
 - a) Many left secure positions in other institutions, relocated their families, and have begun working in Newark because of the significant biomedical and social challenge it represents.
 - b) Many current students chose NJCMD because of its location with the promise of a relevant educational program geared to urban needs.